
Bibliographical sources on Islam in Urdu Language in Pakistan: an over view of sixty three years of publishing

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Abstract

With the striking boost in publishing it is very difficult for someone to know about all the literature published in all fields or even his own field. A bibliography is a most useful tool to identify the recorded information. It is a systematic list of recorded human knowledge. This article is an attempt to explore the “Bibliographical sources” in the field of Islam published in Pakistan in Urdu language. It covers 63 years of publishing history in Pakistan. Every possible effort has been made to find out all the bibliographies related to the different topics/ fields of Islam published in Pakistan in the national language from 1947 to 2010. It is observed that only 31 (thirty one) bibliographies are published to identify the literature on Islam which is the most favorite subject of Pakistani nation.

Keywords:

Bibliography on Islam, Bibliographies in Urdu, Bibliographies in Pakistan

The Pakistan National Bibliography is the only authentic source to know about books published in the country. Except it there is no any reliable source which can prove the accurate record of the national publishing. In this situation it is quite difficult to find out the exact and accurate record. Since the last ten years, the regularity in publishing of National bibliography of Pakistan is admitted but the lacking of other bibliographical sources is still unchanged. In this research the data was gathered by

thorough study of national bibliographies and other available bibliographical sources during the several visits of national library of Pakistan and Copyright office.

Introduction

The pace of book production and publication has become so fast especially in the decade following World War II, which led to the characterization of the situation as an “Information Explosion”. Today this continuous experiential growth has transformed the situation to information overload. With the dramatic increase in publishing, it is not possible to keep oneself-informed about all the publications in each and every field of human knowledge. Excessive information consumes much time and efforts on part of the research, seeking and appraising it.

The ever increasing research being conducted and the result then published have brought a serious problem for librarians, researchers, and scholars. Researchers seek the information from the work already done for which, there should be some media through which the information can be obtained. Every person extracts information from printed source. Existing knowledge sets the direction for further research. It is not possible for researchers to know all the literature published in all fields or even his own field. Number of different ways/ methods have been adopted to address this problem and to provide optimal access to required data, both in terms of time and efforts. Among these, one is the compilation of bibliographical sources.

According to the Random House Dictionary (1987) “the term bibliography refers to a list of works whether complete or selective compiled upon some common principles such as authorship, subject and place of publication or printer”.

As Kumar described (1989 p.152) that “Lists of written, printed or otherwise produced records of civilization and a well-organized list or inventory of recorded knowledge.” He further said “It is a systematically produced descriptive list of records,” (Kumar, K.1989, p.98,) It may be a general list of books or a list restricted to a specific subject. Usually it does not necessarily provide information on a subject but directs the user to appropriate or selected list of material relevant to the pursuit of his inquiry or study. It may be *Subject*, *National* or *Trade*. If it is annotated, user may select a given title on the basis of its contents.

“A *comprehensive* bibliography will include all forms of published communication from reports and documents to the various types of electronic data bases”. Katz, W. (2002, p. 77)

“*Enumerative* bibliography tells among other things, about is the author and publisher of a book along with year of publication etc. and how much it will cost to purchase, in either hard back, paperbound or another form.”Katz, W. (2002, p. 76)

Bibliographical work in Urdu language in Pakistan

Bibliographies are the most popular form of reference material and publish in a good number in Pakistan.

Most of information and reference sources are published in Pakistan in English language, but there are some institutions that exist in Pakistan which are working for the development and production of information sources in Urdu language, such as National Book Council of Pakistan, Muqtadrah Qumi Zaban, Anjuman Tarraqi-e-Urdu, Urdu Dictionary Board, Urdu Science Board and Board for the Advancement of Urdu Literature (Sabir, 1985). The country has made significant progress in developing the bibliographical services in producing quite a good numbers of bibliographies, among these sources bio-bibliography is the most familiar type of bibliography which is published in a large number. Many organizations or publishers publish the detail of works of famous author or scholars. Muqtadrah Qumi Zaban, has pulished 480 (four hundred and eighty) books and most of them are bibliographies (Yasir, K.I. 1985). NBC and Anjuman also publish a sufficient number of bibliographies. *Urdu Kitabon ki directory* published by National Book Council Pakistan is a very useful source of Urdu books published by various publishers of Pakistan but its coverage is also general (NBC,1968).

Muqtadrah’s Mushahir-e-Uloom and Anjuman’s Qamus-ul-Kutub are very remarkable work. Mushahir e uloom is a series of bio bibliographies of the legendary literary personalities of Pakistan which consists of their life and work, while the Qamus-ul-Kutub is a series of bibliographies in three volumes on different subject fields. Similarly National Book Council has contributed a lot of bibliographical sources in early period of its establishment.)

Siddiqui & Usmani’s (1971)” Pakistan mein kitabiyati sargermeyan” is an annotated bibliography of bibliographical sources of different subjects published in Pakistan in Urdu and English language. Its first chapter highlighted the bibliographical activities of various organizations in Pakistan.

Fatima (Fatima, N., 2012) found out 725(seven hundred twenty five) bibliographical sources including 226(two hundred twenty six) sources (both bibliographies and catalogues) in Urdu Language among them in her book “Bibliographical Heritage of Pakistan”. Both of the above stated books are excellent work but their coverage is general and specifically foc us on Islam there is not any other notable work available in Pakistan.

Finding & Discussion

After the comprehensive study on available data, it is found that only thirty one bibliographies on Islam have been published in Urdu language in Pakistan from 1947 to 2010. The detail of published sources is given below;

1. Abdul Hai, M. & Muhammad, A. (1987). *Fehrist-e-Talifat-i-Hakim-ul-ummat*. (فہرست تالیفات حکیم الامت) Karachi: Maktaba-e-Darululoom.

An annotated bibliography of work in Arabic & Urdu language published and unpublished by Shah Muhammad Ashraf Ali Thanvi, an eminent religious scholar of Deoband school of Islamic thought. It also includes a list of books and pamphlets on and about him by various scholars and writers.

2. Ahmed, K. (1992). *Kitabyat-e-Hadees: Tauzihi* (bibliography of Hadith with annotation). (کتابیات حدیث: توضیحی) Lahore: Punjab Library Foundation.

This annotated bibliography is divided into three sections. Section I covers Urdu books dealing with the importance of Hadith and all its aspects including the biographies of “Muhadisen” and “Tibb-e-Nabuvi”, Section II, contains books in Arabic, almost the same subjects as in Section I, which also includes an index. Section III of this bibliography belongs to the books in English on the importance of Hadith, its translation and commentaries. It has an index of authors, compilers and translators.

3. Chaudhri, A. S. (1974). *Tafseer-o-Hadees: Pakistan main shaya honay wali kitaboos ki fahrist*. (تفسیر و حدیث پاکستان میں شائع ہونے والی کتابوں کی فہرست) Karachi: National Book Council.

A bibliography covering the different Islamic topics beside the Islamiyat such as biographies of the Holy prophet (PBUH), Khulfa-i-Rashidin, religious dignitaries, fiction and history etc.

4. Daryabadi, A. M. (1980). *Tasawaf-e-Islam: Tasawaf ki nau aham kitaboos ka ijmal mutalia*. (تصوف اسلام: تصوف کی نو اہم کتابوں کا اجمالی مطالعہ) Lahore: Islamic Foundation.

A detailed study of nine books on tasawaf-e-Islami which discuss Sufism in detail.

5. Ghanchi, H. M. A. (2009) *Jadeed Urdu kitabyat e seerat*. (جدید اردو کتابیات)

Karachi: Zawar Academ

There are 1785 books that are listed in this bibliography with all bibliographical details. An index of titles of books of unknown authors is also provided at the end.

6. Hanif, A. S. S.I. (2007). *Qamus ul Kitab*. قاموس الکتاب Murdan: Dar ul Quran.

An annotated bibliography on books, commentaries, the Holy Quran, Tafseer, jurisprudence, Hadith and translation of the Quran.

7. Hashmi, S. M. M. (1975). *Fehrist-e-Mukhtotat*; (فہرست مخطوطات) Quetta: Seerat Academy Pakistan.

A list of manuscripts about the life of prophet Muahammad (PBUH) available in different libraries of Quetta.

8. Hidayatuulah, M. (1991). *Rehmat ul Alamin; Kitabiyati Jaiza*.: (رحمۃ للعالمین) Lahore: Sang-e-Meel publication.

It includes English and Urdu books on the life of the Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH); his teachings and other aspects of Islam.

9. Hussain, B. (1999) *Kitabiyat e Tayyab*. (کتابیات طیب) Abbotabad: Maktaba e Hamidiya.

An annotated bibliography of books, articles and other writings of Muhammad Tayyab, an eminent religious scholar. It is a survey of his bibliographical services.

10. Idara-e-Tehqiqat Islami. (1985). *Fehrist Qumi numaish-e-kutub-e-seerat* 1984. (فہرست قومی نمائش کتب سیرت 1984) Islamabad: Idarah-e-Tehqiqate Islam.

The Islamic Research Institute arranged an exhibition of books on Seerat un Nabi ((PBUH), biographical sources on Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) at national level in 1984. This bibliography consists of those books which were displayed on that occasion.

11. Jaunpuri, A. A. (1981), *Fiqh-e-Islam, Kitabiyat Shaksiyat*. (فقہ اسلام، کتابیات شخصیات) Multan: Maktaba e Ghousia.

A bibliography of Islamic jurisprudence and discussion on personalities dealing with fiqh and different schools of thoughts in Islam.

12. Katani, M J.(1979)Dilpazir.A. M. (Trans.).*Kutub-e-Hadith wa Mohadaseen ka tar'uf*. (کتب حدیث محدثین کا تعارف) Lahore: Syed Sharaf Hussain Publishers.

A descriptive list of books on Hadith translated into Urdu from other languages. It also includes the introduction of the describers (Mohadaseen)

13. Khalid, S. M.(1981) *Islami nizam -e- taleem aur Pakitstan ke hawaly se sharah -e -kiatabiyat -e -taleem*. (اسلامی نظام تعلیم اور پاکستان کے حوالے سے شرح کتابیات تعلیم) Islamabad: Institute of Policy Studies.

A bibliography of Urdu books on Islamic education system with reference to Pakistan.

14. Khan, A. (2000).*Seerat ul Nabi say mutaliq fehris-e-kutub*. (سیرت النبی سے متعلق کتب) Lahore: Maktaba-e-SyedAhmedShaheed.

A list of Urdu books on the life and teachings of the Holy Prophet Muhammad. (PBUH).

15. Khan, A. (1987).*Quran Karim kay Urdu tarajum:kitabiyat*. (قرآن کریم کے اردو تراجم: کتابیات) Islamabad: Muqtadrah Quami Zaban.

It includes 1011(one thousand and eleven) entries arranged alphabetically by the names of the translators, out of which 442(four hundred forty two) are complete translation of the whole(complete) Quran while 569(five hundred sixty nine) relate to the parts of the Holy Quran. The names of 164(one hundred sixty four) translators who have done the job of complete translations are also included. An index of Publishers is given in the end of the volume.

16. Mahmud, P. & Sheikh, M. (1987). *Seerat-e-Rasool* (PBUH). (سیرت رسول) Lahore: National Book Council.

A descriptive list of books published in Pakistan on the life of Holy Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). All these books highlight the different aspects of prophet's life.

17. Mahmud, S.Q. (1990).*Ilm ul Quran: Mukammal Arabi matan Urdu ki behtrein tafsir ka intekhab aur khulasah. Vol, 20*. (Translation of best commentaries on the Holy Quran in Urdu with complete text in Arabic).translated by Fateh Mohammad

(علم القرآن: مکمل عربی متن، اردو کی بہترین تفسیر کا انتخاب اور۔ Jallindhri, English translated by Allama Yusuf Ali. Karachi: Shahkar Foundation. خلاصہ)

An annotated bibliography and summaries of the best commentaries on the Holy Quran by different scholars in various languages, translated into Urdu and English with complete Arabic text.

18. Naqshbandi, I. & Rehman, H.A. (1988) *Seerat un Nabi (PBUH): Kitabiyat, Kutab Khana Jamaia Karachi mein moojood kutub ki fehrisht*. کتب خانہ جامعہ کراچی (سیرت النبی۔ کتابیات۔ کتب خانہ، جامعہ کراچی) Karachi: Dr. Mahmud Hussain Library. میں موجود کتب کی فہرست)

A descriptive list of books on Seerat un Nabi in different languages: Urdu, Persian, Arabic and English available in Dr. Mahmud Husain Library, University of Karachi. Entries are arranged alphabetically by authors under selected headings.

19. Naqshbandi, H. A. R. I. (1985) *Mashiyat e Islam: fehrisht e urdu kutub*. Karachi: Karachi University Library. (مشیت اسلام، فہرست اردو کتب)

A bibliography of Urdu books on Islamic economics and relevant topics of economics.

20. Naqvi, A. A. & Rizivi, S. J. A. (1988). *Kitabiyat-e- Islamiyat*. (کتابیات اسلامیات) Lahore: National Book Council.

A comprehensive list of books on Islamiyat published in Urdu in Pakistan from 1973 to 1983. Entries in both volumes are arranged according to subject related to Islam. Index for authors is included in both volumes. A list of publishers is also given in the end of both volumes.

21. Naqvi, A.A. (1988). *Tafsir o Hadith: Jamey Fehrist e matbuat Pakistan (commentaries & Hadith)*. (تفسیر و حدیث۔ جامع فہرست مطبوعات پاکستان) Lahore: National Book Council.

A bibliography of Urdu publications of commentaries on the Holy Quran and Hadith published in Pakistan.

22. Naushahi, A. (1993) *Kitabyat e Islam: mukhtootat e kutabkhana e Qureshi*. (کتابیات اسلام۔ مخطوطات کتب خانہ قریشی) Lahore: West Pakistan Urdu Academy.

It contains 142 manuscripts of Urdu, Punjabi and Persian with complete bibliographical details. An index of title of books is also given in the end.

23. Qari, B.H.(Ed.)(1999). *Kitabyat-e-Tayyab Hakeem ul Islam Maulana Qari bibliography and personalities*. (کتابیات طیب- حکیم الاسلام- مولانا قاری طیب) Multan: Maktaba-e-Ghousia

A bibliography of books articles and other writings of Muhammad Tayyab, an eminent religious scholar. List of books about his work and biographical sketch is also given.

24. Quaid-e- Azam Library. (n.d.). *Kitabiyat-e- Fiqah-e- Islami*. (کتابیات فقہ اسلامی) Lahore: Orietal Section, Quaid-e- Azam Library.

A descriptive bibliography of 242 books on Islamic Fiqh, mostly available in the Quaid-e-Azam Library, Lahore.

25. Quaid-e-Azam Library. (1986). *Quran va Uloom al Quran*. (قرآن و علوم) Lahore: Quaid-e-Azam Library.

A descriptive bibliography of books on Quran and teachings in Quran, mostly available in the Quaid-e-Azam Library, Lahore.

26. Qureshi, M.M. (1990). *Quran-e-Majeed kay tarajim junobi hind ki Zabanon mein* (قرآن مجید کے تراجم، جنوبی ہند کی زبانوں میں) Karachi: Bhadur Yar Jang Academy.

A list of translations of Holy Quran in different languages of South India.

27. Ranjha, M.N. (1995). *Pako Hind mein tasawaf ki Urdu matboat*. (پاک و ہند میں) Lahore: Mughrabi Pakistan Urdu Academy.

A bibliography on Islam and especially on tasawaf in Urdu, with particular reference to Asia. It is a union list with bibliographical detail which identifies the books of tasawaf published or available in various parts of Indo-Pak.

28. Rizvi, S. J. (1983). *Fehrist-e- Kitabiyat: Islam; mu'jam-i- masadar-l- Islami kutub-e- hawal* (فہرست کتابیات اسلام، مجموعہ، مصادر اسلام، کتب حوالہ) Lahore : West Pakistan Urdu Academy.

A very useful list of bibliographies on Islam in English and Urdu with special reference to Asia. It consists of Urdu and English language sections along with an index in English.

29. Sehrae, A. (1974). *Islamiyat(1 & 2 part).Pakistan mein 1947 say 1973 tuk shaey hony wali kutub Islamiat ki Jamey fehris* (اسلامیات پاکستان میں 1947 سے 1973 تک شائع ہونے والی کتب). Karachi: National Book Council.

A descriptive list of Urdu books on Islamiyat published in Pakistan. It includes a list of publishers with their addresses. Prof. Qadiri Muhammad Ayub revised it.

30. Shah, S.I.H.(Ed.)(1981). *Armaghan-e-Haq 1400 hijri: kutub e seerat; Vol. I, II, & III*. (ارمغان حق: 1400 ہجری کتب سیرت) Multan: Bhauddin Zakiria University.

An annotated bibliography on “Seerat” in Urdu. A very comprehensive listing consists in three volumes which cover the books on the life and teachings of prophet Muhammad (PBUH) along with bibliographical detail and a note on each book.

31. Taeb, H. (1988) *Kitabyat Seerat-e-Rasool*. (کتبیات سیرت رسول) Lahore: National Book Council.

A bibliography arranged alphabetically by author. It is a list of books on the biography of Prophet (PBUH) with all bibliographical detail. A list of publishers is also incorporated.

Pakistan is an Islamic Republic with its ideology based on Islamic thoughts and philosophy. The highest number of published books is on religion especially Islam in the country. Demand of Islamic books by the people well established fact is a in all over the country. It is one of the subjects of great interest of Pakistani nation. The production of religious books particularly the Holy Quran and Islamic topics published in large quantity. Every year many titles are published with various topics such as Quran; its translation, commentary and its teachings, Life of Prophet Muhammad (PBUH), Companions of Prophet(PBUH), Islamic Fiqh, Islamic economy, Islamic Society and social life, Islamic beliefs, Sacred readings, Islamic sects, Jihad, Sufism and Islamic history etc. There is much competition in the production of books on these topics. The bibliographies do not provide information on a subject but direct the user about required or suitable material. This study reveals that only thirty one bibliographies on Islam have been published in national language in the last sixty three years in Pakistan which is evidently not a pleasant situation.

There is rigorous need to address the problem to overcome the dearth of such sources.

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3. Kumar, K. (1989) *Reference Services*, New Delhi: Vikas.
4. Mashahir-e-Urdu is a Series of Bibliographies of eminent Urdu Scholars published by Muqtadara Qumi Zaban.
5. Nasim Fatima, Dr. (2013) *Bibliographical Heritage of Pakistan (1947-2012)*. Karachi: Idara Kitabyat-e-Pakistan and Library Promotion Bureau.
6. National Book Council Pakistan .(1968)*Urdu Kitabon ki directory*. Karachi: National Book Council Pakistan.
7. Qamus-ul-Kutub is a comprehensive bibliography of Urdu books published in three parts by Anjuman Tarraqi-e-Urdu during 1961-1980.
8. Quaid-e- Azam Library. (n.d.). *Kitabyat-e- Fiqah-e- Islami*. (کتابیات فقہ اسلامی) Lahore: Orietal Section, Quaid-e- Azam Library
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10. Sabir, A. (Ed.). (1985). *Pakistan mein Urdu kay tarraqiyati idaray*. Islamabad: Muqtadrah Quami Zaban.
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